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|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/022,504 | TAKANO ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Joshua L Pritchett | 2872 |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Request for Continued Examination filed July 14, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2 and 4-19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 December 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |


DREW A. DUNN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to Request for Continued Examination filed July 14, 2004.

Claims 16-19 have been added as requested by the applicant.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 2 and 4-19 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1, 8, 9 and 12, the prior art of record fails to teach the use of a binocular vibration correcting means with a left and right correcting optical system including a yaw direction rotational axis in both the left and right optical systems that is spaced from the vibration correcting optical system in the direction of the optical axis.

Regarding claims 16 and 17, the prior art of record fails to teach the use of a vibration correcting means with a left and right correcting optical system including a yaw direction rotational axis in both the left and right optical systems that is spaced from the vibration correcting optical system.

The remaining claims are dependent from claims 1, 8, 12, 16 and 17 and are allowable for the same reasons.

Ohara (US 5,672,862) teaches the use of a variable angle prism in the vibration correcting optical system, which inherently includes the yaw direction rotational axis with the prism and

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therefore cannot have spacing between the yaw direction rotational axis and the vibration correcting optical system.

Yamanouchi (US 6,191,888) teaches the use of a vibration correcting optical system that teaches the driving means to rotate the lenses (I and I') in both the pitch and yaw direction, but does not teach the yaw direction rotational axis being spaced from the vibration correcting optical system. As shown in Figs. 1, 2A and 3A the spacing is perpendicular to the optical axis, thus Yamanouchi fails to be the required claim limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

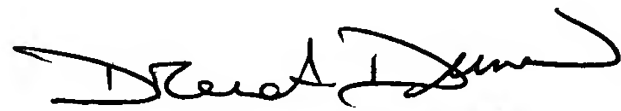
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua L Pritchett whose telephone number is 571-272-2318. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:00 - 3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Drew A Dunn can be reached on 571-272-2312. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JLP *JP*


DREW A. DUNN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER